

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method of data communication handoff across heterogeneous wireless networks. A wireless telephony network comprises a base station system (BSS) and a visit location register (VLR). The BSS manages data communication in a cell. The VLR generates a temporary authentication identity applicable in the cell when a mobile terminal is successful authentication for data communication via the wireless telephony network, and transmits the temporary authentication identity to the mobile terminal. A wireless local area network (WLAN) located in the cell comprises an access point. The access point receives the temporary authentication identity from the wireless telephony network and authenticates the mobile terminal for data communication via the WLAN by verifying the temporary authentication identity upon the mobile terminal associates with the access point.